

**MINUTES
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2020
EMMITSBURG TOWN OFFICE**

Present: *Elected Officials* - Mayor Donald Briggs; Commissioners: Clifford Sweeney, President; Timothy O'Donnell, Treasurer and Vice President; Joseph Ritz III; Frank Davis; and TJ Burns. *Staff Present* - Cathy Willets, Town Manager; Madeline Shaw, Town Clerk; Amy Naill, Code Enforcement Officer; Jim Click, Director of Public Works; and Daniel Fissel, Sewer and Water Superintendent. *Others* - Deputy Ben Whitehouse.

I. Call to Order:

A quorum being present, Commissioner Clifford Sweeney, President of the Board of Commissioners, called the January 22, 2020 special town meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Upcoming meetings were announced. The next Parks Committee meeting will be January 30, 2020. Commissioner Burns arrived at 7:33 p.m. The agenda was modified with consent of the public to allow for town staff's presentation before public comment and questions.

B. Agenda Items:

Agenda #1 – Water Quality Discussion: Ms. Willets gave a presentation and reviewed the recent waterline work completed, locations of brown water complaints received since October 2019, steps taken to resolve the brown water reports, and possible short and long term solutions. She explained one possible cause may be unlined ductile iron pipes from before 1952 that could be corroding and have tuberculation. A short term solution is treating the water; the Town is waiting on testing results from Frederick County. The long term solution is the replacement of the affected water lines. The cost to replace 1,000 linear feet of corroded waterline is approximately \$300,000. Town staff recommends the replacement of 5,850 linear feet of line for \$1.75 million at North Seton Avenue, Waynesboro Pike and DePaul Street and requested the Boards assistance in talking to elected officials to raise funding as the water fund is operating in a deficit.

A. Public Comments:

Eric Hewitt, 9371 Waynesboro Pike - Mr. Hewitt has experienced brown water and would like the Town to find a solution. *Bob Laudani, 370 Timbermill Run* - Mr. Laudani has experienced brown water and would like the Town to further investigate the causes. *Debbie Ball, 318 Mountaineers Way* - Ms. Ball requested a resolution timeline and reimbursement for filters.

The Board consented to sending individual letters to State and Federal delegates to request funding. Mayor Briggs agreed to direct town staff to draft a letter template. The Board discussed possible funding sources of waterline work. The Board requested a citizen's committee to research water quality solutions and support town staff but not act on behalf of the Town. The committee will need to be approved as administrative business at a future town meeting prior to assembly. Mayor Briggs expressed concern about having too many people involved and unnecessarily burdening staff. A formal recommendation on next steps will be brought to the February town meeting once testing results are received from Frederick County.

C. Modification of Next Meeting Agenda for February 3, 2020:

1. Audit Presentation by Michele Mills.
2. Final Review and Approval of the FY2020 MHAA Wayside Exhibits for Consideration.
3. Presentation on Rural Public Transit for Discussion.
4. Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Transfers to the Capital Fund for Consideration.
5. Approval of Contract to Conduct Silo Hill Storm Water Management Basin Restoration for Consideration.
6. Updates to the 2017 Employee Handbook, Vehicle Safety and Usage Section, for Consideration.
7. Waynesboro Waterline Update for Consideration.

Administrative Business:

- A. Filing of the 2019 Planning Commission Report.
- B. Water Quality Update.
- C. Proclamation Thanking Roger Wilson for His Service.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Multi-User Trail Workdays for Consideration.

III. Sign Approved Text Amendments and/or Resolutions

IV. Adjournment

With no further business, Commissioner O'Donnell motioned to adjourn the January 22, 2020 town meeting; second by Commissioner Davis. Yeas - 5; Nays - 0. The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Madeline Shaw, Town Clerk

Minutes Approved On: February 3, 2020